

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

AUG 22 2003

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
Sheet

1

of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/674,031
Filing Date	September 29, 2003
First Named Inventor	Mark A. Saab
Art Unit	3763
Examiner Name	Victoria P. Campbell

Attorney Docket Number API-020US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 3,779,239	12-18-1973	Fischer et al.	
		US- 5,108,404	04-28-1992	Scholten et al.	
		US- 5,163,989	11-17-1992	Campbell et al.	
		US- 5,290,306	03-01-1994	Trotta et al.	
		US- 5,295,994	03-22-1994	Bonutti	
		US- 5,331,975	07-26-1994	Bonutti	
		US- 5,352,199	10-04-1994	Tower	
		US- 5,361,752	11-08-1994	Moll et al.	
		US- 5,741,282	04-21-1998	Anspach et al.	
		US- 5,766,151	06-16-1998	Valley et al.	
		US- 5,772,681	06-30-1998	Leoni	
		US- 5,827,289	10-17-1998	Reiley et al.	
		US- 6,235,043	05-22-2001	Reiley et al.	
		US- 6,607,544	08-19-2003	Boucher et al.	
		US- 6,979,341	12-27-2005	Scribner et al.	
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.